

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS :

1. A method of image distribution from a central distribution server (10) to at least one receiver device (20), in which, in response to a user request, at least one image is broadcast by a telecasting means, and an information message (24) of image availability by telecasting is sent to the receiver device (20).
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2. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the image to be broadcast is transmitted from the server to a telecasting station (40).
- 10 3. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the image is encoded with at least one key before its broadcasting.
4. A method according to Claim 2, wherein the key is sent to the receiver device (20) with the availability information message (24).
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5. A method according to Claim 1, wherein transmission of the image to the telecasting station and transmission of the availability information message (24) to the receiver device take place more or less at the same time.
- 20 6. A method according to Claim 1, comprising the transmission by the receiver device (20), of an acknowledgement (29) of the image and the interruption of the broadcasting of the image in response to the acknowledgement.
- 25 7. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the availability information message (24) and/or acknowledgement are messages transmitted by Internet.
8. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the image is
30 broadcast by radio and/or by cable.

9. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the image distribution request is transmitted from the user to the central server using a surcharged electronic message (32).

5 10. An image distribution system comprising a central server (10), a first communication link (42) between the server and a telecasting station and a second communication link (26) between the central server and a receiver device (20), the receiver device being capable of receiving a telecast signal (44) from the telecasting station.

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11. A system according to Claim 10, wherein the receiver device comprises a television set, a digital camera or any other device capable of displaying an image.

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12. A system according to Claim 10, wherein the receiver device is a digital photo frame.

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13. A digital photo frame comprising a network communication channel, a telecast signal reception channel (27, 28), and display means (22) of an image received by the telecast signal reception channel, in response to an information message received by the network communication channel.

14. A frame according to Claim 13, wherein the telecast signal reception channel has a key decoder (27).